DR. KARAN SINGH: Sir, how do you know that? Do you have any figures, in this regard? How can you say that it is going down?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: By the incidents that are reported, and that are also brought to the notice by other parents. I mean, I have no statistics on that because how can I have statistics on ragging in every school? But the fact is that it has come down, and, not because of the Education Department, but because of the civil society, because of the parents, the students themselves, and if there is anything beyond that, which has to be taken care of, we are certainly open to that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Question No. 283. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, will you allow Half-an-Hour Discussion on it?

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: No, no; ...*(Interruptions)*...

[*283. *The Questioner Shrimati Hema Malini was absent. For answer vide page* 31 *infra.*]

बीच में ही पढ़ाई छोड़ देने वाले बच्चों की संख्या में कमी लाना

284. **श्री राजनीति प्रसाद:** क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) देश में ''सर्व शिक्षा अभियान'' के अन्तर्गत बीच में ही पढ़ाई छोड़ देने वाले बच्चों की संख्या में कमी लाने के लिए सरकार की योजना का ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) इस योजना के लागू होने के उपरांत इस दिशा में क्या परिणाम सामने आए हैं;

(ग) ''दोपहर का भोजन'' योजना इस दिशा में कितनी कारगर रही है;

(घ) क्या ऐसी कोई समीक्षा की गई है कि केंद्र सरकार की ये योजनाएं कितनी कारगर रही हैं; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो क्या ऐसी समीक्षा के दौरान इन योजनाओं में कोई कमियां पाई गई हैं और यदि हां, तो उन्हें दूर करने के लिए क्या उपाय किए जा रहे हैं?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री (श्री अर्जुन सिंह): (क) से (ङ) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(क) से (ङ) सर्व शिक्षा अभियान शुरू होने के समय से ही पढ़ाई बीच में छोड़ने की दरों में लगातार कमी आ रही है। प्राथमिक स्तर पर पढ़ाई बीच में छोड़ने की दर वर्ष 2001-02 में 39.3% थी जो वर्ष 2003-04 में घटकर 31.36% रह गई। इसी अवधि के दौरान बालिकाओं की पढ़ाई बीच में छोड़ने की दर में अधिक कमी आई अर्थात् इसमें 11.76% की कमी हुई।

भारत सरकार द्वारा नियमित मानीटरन किए जाने के आलावा स्वतंत्र विशेषज्ञों द्वारा भी सर्व शिक्षा अभियान की हर छह महीने में समीक्षा की जाती है। पिछली समीक्षा 17-27 जुलाई के बीच आयोजित की गई थी जिसने सर्व शिक्षा अभियान में पहुंच बढ़ाने और लैंगिक तथा सामाजिक अंतरालों को कम करने में हुई उल्लेखनीय प्रगति पर संतोष व्यक्त किया है; इस दिशा में देश प्राथमिक स्तर पर करीब-करीब सर्वसुलभ नामांकन की ओर तेजी से बढ़ रहा है। इस समीक्षा में यह नोट किया गया है कि बीच में स्कूल छोड़ने की दर में कमी आ रही है और यह सिफारिश की गई कि सर्व शिक्षा अभियान में स्कूल में बच्चों को बनाए रखने तथा शिक्षा की गुणवत्ता में सुधार की प्रक्रिया को जारी रखने की आवश्यकता है।

पढ़ाई बीच में छोड़ने की दरों में कमी करने हेतु सर्व शिक्षा अभियान के तहत एक बहु-आयामी दृष्टिकोण अपनाया गया है। एक ओर कुछ कार्यक्रम स्कूली अवसंरचना में सुधार, अतिरिक्त शिक्षकों की भर्ती, वार्षिक स्कूल अनुदान, शिक्षकों को नियमित प्रशिक्षण, शिक्षकों को नियमित शैक्षिक सहायता आदि के माध्यम से स्कूलों को सुदृढ़ बनाते हैं और शिक्षा की गुणवत्ता में सुधार लाते हैं। इसके अलावा, सर्व शिक्षा अभियान के तहत अनेक कार्यक्रमों का लक्ष्य सामुदायिक सहायता, पढ़ाई बीच में छोड़ने वाले बच्चों, बड़े बच्चों अथवा विषम परिस्थितियों में रहने वाले बच्चों के लिए लचीली स्कूली शिक्षा और बालिकाओं, समाज के लाभ-वंचित वर्गों के बच्चों तथा विशेष आवश्यकताओं वाले बच्चों की शिक्षा के लिए विशेष प्रावधान करना है।

मध्याह्न भोजन योजना में सरकारी स्कूलों, सरकारी सहायता प्राप्त स्कूलों, स्थानीय निकायों के स्कूलों और वैकल्पिक शिक्षा केंद्रों में प्राथमिक स्तर पर अध्ययनरत लगभग 12 करोड़ बच्चों को पका हुआ गर्म भोजन प्रदान किया जाता है।

मंत्रालय द्वारा मध्याह्न भोजन की की गई समीक्षा से पकाने की लागत हेतु केंद्रीय सहायता की अपर्याप्तता तथा किचन-शैडों की अनुपलब्धता का पता चला था। संशोधित मध्याह्न भोजन योजना में इन दोनों मुद्दों पर ध्यान दिया गया है।

Reduction in the number of drop-out children

†*284. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the plan of Government to reduce the number of drop-out children under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in the country;

(b) the results achieved in this direction after implementation of the above plan;

(c) to what extent 'Mid-day Meal' scheme has been effective in this direction;

(d) whether any reveiw has been made as to what extent these schemes of Central Government have been effective; and

(e) if so, whether any shortcomings have been found in these schemes during such review and if so, the measures being taken to remove them?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (e): Dropout rates have been declining steadily since launch of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. The primary stage dropout rates from 39.03% in 2001-02 to 31.36% in 2003-04. The dropout rate for girls declined more sharply by 11.76% points during the same period.

Apart from regular monitoring by the Government of India, SSA is reviewed every six months by independent experts. The last review was held between 17.27 July, 2006 which has expressed satisfaction at the remarkable progress in increasing access and narrowing gender and social gaps in SSA, wherein the country is fast approaching near universal enrolment at primary stage. The review has noted that dropout rates are declining and recommended that SSA needs to continue to improve retention and quality of instruction.

A multi-pronged approach has been adopted under SSA for reducing dropout rates. One set of interventions relates to strengthening of schools and improving the quality of education through improvement in school

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

infrastructure, recruitment of additional teachers, annual school grants, regular training of teachers, regular academic support to teachers etc. In addition, several interventions under SSA also aim at community support, flexible schooling for children who are dropouts, older children or children in difficult circumstances, and special provisions to promote education of girls, children from disadvantaged sections of society or children with special needs.

The Mid-Day Meal (MDM) Scheme provides a hot cooked meal to nearly 12 crore children studying at the primary stage in Government, Government aided, local body schools and alternative education centres.

Reviews of MDM Scheme by the Ministry had indicated the inadequacy of central assistance for cooking cost and the non-availability of kitchen sheds. Both issues have been addressed in the revised mid-day meal scheme.

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद: सभापति महोदय, इनका जबाव मेरे पास है। मैं पूरक प्रश्न करना चाह रहा हूं कि यह जो जबाव इन्होंने दिया है, उस जबाव से मैं संतुष्ट नहीं हूं, क्योंकि इन्होंने कहा है कि जो ड्राप-आउट है...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: आप क्वेश्चन कर लीजिए। उन्होंने जो कहा है, उससे आप संतुष्ट भी नहीं हैं और फिर...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद: सभापति महोदय, मैं यह कह रहा हूं कि आपने जो ड्राप-आउट 31 परसेंट बताया है, वह आपका आंकड़ा गलत है। आप पूरे गांवों में जाकर देखेंगे, तो वहां पर पायेंगे कि दो, चार, पांच बच्चों का दाखिला हो पाता है और जिन दो, चार, पांच का दाखिला होता है, उसमें से भी दो-तीन बच्चे गायब हो जाते हैं। आपका जो मानिटरिंग सिस्टम है, केन्द्र का जो मानिटरिंग सिस्टम है, वह मानिटरिंग सिस्टम ठीक नहीं है और इसीलिए...।

श्री सभापति: आप सीधे क्वेश्चन करिए।

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद: सर, मैं क्वेश्चन कर रहा हूं।

श्री सभापति: क्या आपका मानिटरिंग सिस्टम ठीक नहीं है? आप बोलिए।

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद: इस मानिटरिंग सिस्टम को ठीक करने के लिए, क्योंकि आप इतने करोड़ रुपये खर्च कर रहे हैं...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: ठीक है, ठीक है।

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद: लेकिन आपका जो ड्राप-आउट है, वह आपका...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: आप बैठ जाइये। आपका क्वेश्चन हो गया।

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद: मैं सही क्वेश्चन कर रहा हूं, मैंने तो क्वेश्चन किया ही।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): Sir, we have a very stringent monitoring process in place to ensure that the *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan* is being implemented in the proper way. We have local community based monitoring done with regard to the enrolment, with regard to the attendance and also with regard to the retention of the children. We also have a computerised educational system and MIS system in place which gives us reports from the States. And, we also have progress reports against key educational indicators sent by the States every month, and we also have quarterly monitoring records which are sent to us by the States. Sir, we have also 41 National Social Science Institutes attached to the States which do conduct field surveys and they do send us reports/records. We also encourage individual surveys to be done. With regard to the dropout rate, definitely, there is a positive downward trend. With regard to the boys, in 2001-02 when our dropout rate was around 38.36 per cent, in 2003-04, it has come down to 33.66 per cent which is down by 4.7 per cent. With regard to the girl, 39.8 per cent was the dropout rate in 2001-02, it has come down to 28.44 per cent which is again down by 11.44 per cent. So, all put together, the dropout rate which was hovering around 39.03 per cent in 2001-02 has come down to 31.36 per cent in 2003-04 and it is down by 7.6 per cent. So, I must say that this is a positive trend.

श्री राजनीति प्रसाद: सभापति महोदय, गांवों में सर्व शिक्षा अभियान के तहत जो सेंटर खोले गए हैं, उनकी हकीकत यह नहीं है। जो मिड-डे-मील बच्चों को दिया जाता है, उसमें बहुत धांधली होती है। उसकी कोई देख-रेख करने वाला नहीं है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह पूछना चाहता हूं कि यह जो मिड-डे-मील देते हैं, उसके बारे में कमी है, जो सेट की कमी है, चूल्हे की कमी है, उसके बारे में क्या आपने कोई सर्वेक्षण कराया है या नहीं? अगर करवाया है तो कहां-कहां इसकी कमी महसूस हुई है और किन-किन जगहों में आपको यह पता चला कि वहां पर मिड-डे-मील बच्चों को नहीं मिल रहा है बल्कि जो सामान मिलता है, उसको काला-बाजार में बेचने का काम होता है? इस बारे में आपको कितनी जानकारी मिली है, यह मैं आपसे जानना चाहता हूं।

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, assistance is provided to the States to conduct their own evaluation, monitoring and management of this scheme. Sir, independent studies are also encouraged by the Government so that we get unbiased reports/records with regard to the

implementation of the Mid-day Meal Scheme. The Planning Commission is also now launching a nationwide evaluation programme with regard to the revised scheme. The UT and State Governments have been commissioned to conduct their own independent evaluation. The UNICEF has also been asked to undertake a baseline survey with regard to the nutritional status of the children. So, these are the various monitoring aspects that have been undertaken by the Government of India. We have revised the scheme in July 2006 wherein the convergent cost has been increased from Re. 1 to Rs. 1.50 and 50 paise is the share which is pitched in by the States. With regard to the grain, again 100 gms is being provided to the children. Besides this, Sir, the menus have been revised and new menus are added other than *khichri* and *dalia* which were served to the children earlier. Sir, some Governments have been giving them egg and fruit also. This is also added to the menu. Along with this, they are also giving micronutrients and also deworming medicine. Various innovative interventions have been undertaken.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Thank you, Sir. Earlier the Central assistance given to the States or the Mid-day Meal Scheme was based on the demands furnished by the States. According to the reports, now they have changed the system and the mechanism for giving allocation is based on the annual work plan, which is prepared by the States. I want to ask the hon. Minister whether there is any audit done of the outlay versus outcome. On what basis, do you increase the allocation because 12 crore children are availing of this? How do you ensure that this is not getting wasted? So, do you audit what happened the previous year before you make fresh allocations to prevent it from going into the black market. Also it helped to reduce the dropout rate from school?

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, Mid-day Meal is a very progressive step towards controlling dropout rate. It has shown very positive influence not only on the enrolment and retention but on attendance also and the dropout rate has come down very well. With regard to the monitoring system, Sir, I have already informed that we do have monitoring system being conducted regularly. We do get positive feedback. With regard to auditing, we have annual reports being sent by the States, they are audited by Chartered Accountants, and they are sent from the States. Any instance of diversion or any malpractice brought to our notice is definitely taken care of, Sir, and it is definitely looked into.

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: I would like to ask the hon. Minister this: As far as the drop outs of the girls are concerned, she says that they have reduced. Has the Government made any study in this *Sarva Shiksha Abiyaan* that the schools they identify, have enough toilets over there? When I was involved with UNICEF, a study was done which says that in the absence of toilets for the girls, many drop outs were there, specially of the girl students. What precautions have the Government taken or what provision have they made to see that there are enough toiles for the girls in the schools?

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: One of the main reasons for the girl children dropping out in the higher classes was that there was insufficient provision of toilets for girls in the higher schools. That has been specially taken notice of and special efforts are being done in this direction to ensure that the toilets are being constructed, specially for the girls.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर: माननीय सभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से यह जानना चाहती हूं कि मंत्री जी ने ड्रॉपआउट्स के बारे में कहा कि इनका परसेंटेज काफी कम हो रहा है, तो क्या मंत्री जी इस बात से अनभिज्ञ हैं कि जो ऐलिमेंटरी सिस्टम "सर्व शिक्षा अभियान" के अंतर्गत शुरू किया गया है, कई स्टेट्स में उसके लिए अलग से प्रावधान नहीं किया गया है, जिससे कि बच्चों को सही शिक्षा नहीं मिल पाती? वहां टीचर्स का अभाव है और directorate भी अलग-अलग हैं, तो क्या केंन्द्र सरकार इसके लिए राज्य सरकारों को कोई निर्देश देगी कि इसको कामयाब बनाने के लिए वह अलग से इसका directorate बनाए और ऐलिमेंटरी शिक्षा, जो बहुत कंपल्सरी कर दी गई है, उसको ठीक ढंग से चलाने की बात करे?

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, I agree with the hon. Member that teacher problem has been a major problem in imparting quality education and there has been a special drive to increase recruitment of teachers wherein the teacher and pupil ratio was around 1:44. It has now come down to 1:42. This definitely means that we are treading in the right direction and almost six lakh additional teachers have been recruited under *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan* in the first four years of its implementation. But however, Sir, we need to admit that there are some regional and there are some district-wise disparities. What is required to be done now is the rational deployment of teachers in these States and in these districts and steps are being taken to ensure that the deployment of teachers is done properly.

SHRIMATI N. P. DURGA: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is true that the drop out rate of girls in Andhra Pradesh is 42.8 per cent between class I and IV, whereas the national average is 28.6

per cent. If so, have any reviews been made to find out the reasons behind this huge percentage of girl drop outs in Andhra Pradesh and what is the national curriculum framework envisaged for improvement in the drop out rate of girl child in Andhra Pradesh?

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, with regard to drop out rates of girl children between classes I and V, one of the main reasons as I have mentioned earlier is lack of toilet facilities which we are definitely looking into. Broadly, Sir, this can be categorised into two. One is the socio-economic factor and the other is the school-related factor. With regard to socio-economic factor, Sir, sometimes if the family is really that poor that they cannot send their child to school and the assistance of the child is required in their homes, in their own farms, business or household, then, that takes precedence over sending their child to the school. Sometimes, they may even want to send their child outside for wages. So, that takes precedence and the girl children specially, Sir, are asked to assist their mothers at home in the household chores and besides this they are also asked to take care of their younger siblings. So these are the socio-economic factors. When it comes to school-related factors, as I told you earlier, Sir, the toilets are a major problem and these are definitely being looked into. We are taking definite steps to ensure that the girl children are retained in school and there is a positive trend as I have just mentioned earlier and I am sure it will yield positive results.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, the basic issue of dropouts...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only women Members are allowed.

श्री मोती लाल वोरा: सर, हम लोगों को भी बोलने का मौका दीजिए, नहीं तो हम लोगों ...(**व्यवधान**)... के साथ न्याय नहीं होगा। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री सभापति: इसका मतलब है कि लेडी मैम्बर्स को चांस मिलने से आपके साथ अन्याय होता है?

श्री मोती लाल वोरा: जी, उनको चांस मिले, लेकिन हम लोगों को भी मौका मिले।

प्रो. राम देव भंडारी: सर, ये सीनियर सिटिजन्स हैं।

श्री सभापति: ठीक है।

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, I would like to raise another issue, connected with that of dropouts. Basically, the issue of dropouts is closely

linked to the absence of legislation, following the 86th Constitutional Amendment for the Right to Free and Compulsory Education for all children in country. There was a draft Bill which had been circulated in 2004. There was a lot of discussion on it all over the country. Now, suddenly we find that the Government set up another committee, headed by Shri Kapil Sibal. We are told that on the basis of the recommendations of the Kapil Sibbal Committee on Central legislation is now, being replaced by a model Bill and the States are forced to do it. In other words, the financial, moral and political commitment of the Central Government to ensure the Right to Free and Compulsory Education to the children of India has now, retreated from that responsibility. The Government has retreated from that responsibility. It is, now, trying to have a model Bill and force the States to do it. And, we cannot understand the reasoning behind this. Therefore, my question is this. Hon. Minister is here; we know it is a Concurrent subject, but this is a commitment of the Common Minimum Programme; it is a commitment of this country to ensure free and compulsory education to our children. How can the Central Government escape from its responsibility? It is because of the finances? What is the reason behind it? Therefore, I would like to know when the Central Government is bringing forward this draft legislation to Parliament. This is connected with the basic issue of dropouts.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Sir, this issue is not related to this question, I must make it very clear. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: I am sorry, Sir. The issue of dropouts is linked to the Right to Free and Compulsory Education. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: But, Sir, still it is an issue which, I think, the hon. Member is entitled to raise; and, later on, there is a direct question on this basis. But, I think, if I were to go into all the reasons why this has happened, perhaps, I would not be doing justice to your supplementary. Either you have this questions, which is coming, or, I would not be averse to having a half-an-hour discussion on it because this is a serious matter. And, why this has come to pass, the hon. House must know. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Sir, there is another question, question No. 293. That may be taken up with it.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, the issue of dropouts is linked to the Right to Free and Compulsory Education. What is your understanding

on dropouts? ...(*Interruptions*)... sir, the issue of dropouts is closely linked to the Right to Free and Compulsory Education ...(*Interruptions*) ... सर, आप यह देखिए, ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: And, sir, question No. 297 may also be taken up with it. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Shri Kapil Sibal is also here. Let him give an explanation how he has ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, Now, Mr. Naqvi.

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी: माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि सर्व शिक्षा अभियान के तहत और उसके प्रोत्साहन के लिए उसको हर घर तक, हर गांव तक, हर खेत तक और हर खलिहान तक पहुंचाने के लिए एक बहुत अच्छा विज्ञापन कार्यक्रम चला था, 'आओ स्कूल चलें'। मैं पिछले लगभग डेढ़ साल से देख रहा हूं कि किसी तरह का ऐसा कोई भी विज्ञापन किसी भी टी॰वी॰ चैनल या अखबार में नहीं दिखा है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या इस विज्ञापन को या इस तरह के किसी भी विज्ञापन को फिर से 'सर्व शिक्षा अभियान' के प्रोत्साहन के लिए शुरू करेंगे?

दूसरी चीज पौष्टिक आहार के बारे में है, यह बच्चों को स्कूलों में केन्द्रीय सहायता से दिया जाता है। क्या माननीय मंत्री जी इस बारे में सदन को बताएंगे कि जो बच्चों को खिलाने के लिए पौष्टिक आहार दिए जाते हैं, उनके बारे में कहा गया है कि स्कूलों में किचन शैडों की कमी है या उनको केन्द्रीय सहायता पर्याप्त नहीं दी जा रही है? लेकिन ऐसी सूचनाएं आई हैं कि जो आहार बच्चों को मिलना चाहिए, उसको स्कूल के लोग या स्कूल के प्रबंधन के लोग बेच देते हैं। इस तरह की तमाम शिकायतें हैं? क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बताएंगे कि इस तरह की कितनी शिकायतें हैं और ऐसे लोगों के खिलाफ क्या कार्यवाही की है?

श्री सभापति: ठीक है, ठीक है।

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, with regard to the publicity aspect that the hon. Member has raised, there has been a publicity campaign, which is presently going on, on DD as well on All India Radio. So, there is no way that we are ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री सभापति: ठीक है, ठीक है।

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, it is also on Doordarshan, if you would attempt to look at it. Sir, with regard to instances of diversion of foodgrains and all that, it is the State which actually takes action against

all these diversions of foodgrains and other things that happen in the State, and if there is something that is brought to our notice, Sir, definitely from here we, in consultation with the States, do take steps to prevent such malpractices.

श्री मोती लाल वोरा: सभापति महोदय, माननीय मंत्री महोदया ने कहा है कि वर्ष 2005-06 में सर्व शिक्षा अभियान काफी संतोषजनक रहा, लेकिन बिहार, मणिपुर, पश्चिम बंगाल में यह संतोषजनक नहीं रहा है। सभापति जी, विभाग ने वर्ष 2005 में एक सर्वे कराया था और इस सर्वे के आंकड़े अगर आप देखें, तो आप स्वयं आश्चर्यचकित रह जाएंगे कि उत्तर प्रदेश में 22,10,120 बच्चे, जो 6 वर्ष से 14 वर्ष की आयु के हैं, वे स्कूल नहीं जाते हैं, यह है उत्तर प्रदेश का मामला। इसी तरह बिहार में 26,23,170 बच्चे स्कूल नहीं जाते, पश्चिम बंगाल में 6,13,167 बच्चे स्कूल नहीं जाते, कुल मिलाकर 91,86,869 बच्चे, जो 6 वर्ष से 14 वर्ष की आयु के हैं, स्कूल नहीं जाते हैं। मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदया से यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि यह वर्ष 2005-06 का सर्वे था, अब वर्ष 2006-07 के सर्वे में इसमें क्या प्रगति हुई है, जो बच्चे स्कूल नहीं जाते हैं, उनके बारे में क्या प्रगति हुई है, यह बताने की कृपा करें।

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, five States are lagging behind in the implementation of *Sarva Siksha Abhiyan,* and they are Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. Sir, special attention has been paid to these five States, and with regard to the outlay to the States, almost about 49.1 per cent of the total outlay is towards these States.

Now, with regard to the opening up of new schools, 71.4 per cent of new schools have been opened up in these five States and 56.9 upper primary schools have been opened there. And, 69.4 per cent of the total teacher recruitment has been done in these five States. Under the EGS and the AIE schemes, about 56.9 per cent of the total children covered are in these five States.

With regard to the civil works, 58 per cent of the total civil works are being undertaken in these five States. With regard to the NPEGEL which is a very important component of the *Sarva Siksha abhiyan* also, 54.4 per cent of the total girls are covered under this schemes. So, these are the strong steps taken towards these five States which are lagging behind in *Sarva Siksha Abhiyan.*

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Sir, this is a very complex subject. I only wish to draw the attention of the hon. Minister and his whole Ministry to

some vital aspect by asking him a question. Sir, the constitutional obligation of the Central Government arises out of the Forty-fifth article of the Constitution, the Directive Principles, which said that within ten years, you shall provide free and compulsory education. Education was originally at Item 11 in the State List. We removed it from the State List. It is now in the Concurrent List; education is all in the Concurrent List. Therefore, it is the primary obligation of the Centre. The anwers which are given here seem to suggest that they are still trying to educate the State Governments of their responsibility in the matter of education. Sir, that is the tragedy of it. I want the hon. Minister to realise that today the greatest danger facing this country is the 'suicide bomber'. The 'suicide bomber' is born as a result of education given in ramshackle schools by evil and wicked teachers. If proper education had been given and that constitutional mandate had been fulfilled, there would have been no 'suicide bombers' in India. You are responsible for creating the suicide bomber because of your ...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, I am sorry to say that there is no understanding of the Constitutional obligation of the Central Government at all. They still seem to think that it is the obligation of the State Government; they are trying to educate the State Government and preparing a draft Bill for them. It is their duty to legislate.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, where is the Central legislation?

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Sir, this is all topsy-turvy ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Sir, I can't match wits with such a legal luminary, but may I very humbly tell him that merely bringing the subject under the Concurrent List does not mean that the State's rights have been snuffed out. That is not the ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, what about a Central legislation? ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Sir, I am talking of your obligation.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Even the obligation ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, what about a Central legislation under the right to education?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him reply. Please, don't interrupt.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: The State has the right to legislate.

श्रीमती वृंदा कारत: सर, ये इसके बारे में बिल्कुल जवाब नहीं दे रहे हैं।

श्री सभापति: नहीं दे रहे हैं, तो मैं क्या करूं।

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: I would like to have a discussion on this. I don't want to answer a question on this.

श्री सभापति: आप बोलिए।

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: I have said that I would like to have a discussion on this.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: But, there are only five minutes left now.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: I am not saying, now; we could have a half-an-hour discussion on this.

श्रीमती वृंदा कारत: सर, तब तक वे स्टेट गवर्नमेंट को बिल भेज चुके होंगे।

श्री सभापति: वे इसे देख लेंगे। नेक्स्ट क्वैश्चन 285.

Setting up of private sector food processing units in Jharkhand

*285. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the private sector units set up in Jharkhand for food processing;

(b) the total investment that has come to the State in the food processing sector; and

(c) the steps Government are taking to improve the food processing industry in Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

As per the information received from Central Statistical Organisation, Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation from the Annual Survey of Industries, number of units and the corresponding